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FROM: Paris

TO: Secretary of State

NO: POLTO 419, October 9, 5 p.m.

PRIORITY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by JB Heston DATE 1/2☐ RELEASE ☐ DECLASSIFY
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Dutch PERMREP Boon, following through on conversation with Ambassador Finletter 8th, filled me in further on action being taken by Dutch re ships to Cuba. Dutch Government has written letters to all Dutch ship owners informing them of requests made by US to desist trade with Cuba and pointing out importance of measures being taken by US Government in regard to Cuban trade. This letter does not forbid them continue such operations but warns them that there may be serious consequences therefrom. Boon explained letter did not mean that if Dutch ships got into difficulties because of this trade Dutch Government would not go through motions of protesting to us, but ship owners would be told that they had been warned of these difficulties and therefore Dutch Government's protest could not be too effective.

Boon added that any further action Dutch might take would be influenced considerably by attitude of Latin American countries re Cuba because of need for Dutch to act cautiously in view of sensitivities of Curacao and Surinam, who would resent any further Dutch action against Cuba taken prior to action by at least some Latin American countries.

We are providing Dutch with text passages on use of ships in Cuba trade, from October 4 communique of Latin American Foreign Ministers.

RAS/4

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